

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

Energy saving methods and apparatus for elevator systems having a plurality of elevator cars operating in a plurality of elevator shafts ~~are disclosed~~. The present invention provides methods and apparatus for determining which one of the plurality of elevator cars is to be assigned to a new hall call in order to reduce the net energy consumption of the elevator system over time.

Please add the following new BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS after paragraph [0007]:

[0007.1] Fig. 1 is a flow chart of an energy savings method in accordance with the present invention; and

[0007.2] Fig. 2 is a flow chart of another embodiment of an energy savings method in accordance with the present invention.

Please replace paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] Referring to Fig. 1, ~~According~~ according to one embodiment of the present invention, when a passenger executes a new hall call in an elevator system having a plurality of elevator cars that are available to answer the hall call, an inferred destination is assigned to the new hall call.

Please replace paragraph [0025] as published with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] Referring now to Fig. 2, ~~[[It]]~~ it is envisioned that this dispatching system can be used as a standalone system or incorporated as an enhancement to an existing dispatch equation. An example of incorporating this into an advanced dispatching system such as the one described in U.S. Pat. No. 6,439,349 B1, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety, is as follows: